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Barrington Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies  
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

summarised by

Mike Petty

Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the  
Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the  
Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at  
[bit.ly/CambsCollection](https://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Mike%20Petty%22)

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I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.  
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in  
touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library  
where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the  
1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

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Mike Petty, Stretham

2018

## Barrington Scrapbook 1897-1990

1897 06 29

Barrington jubilee, p3

1897 07 01

GNR & Barrington syndicate, p2

1897 08 18

Barrington cement works sale, p2

1897 10 12

Barrington brick syndicate, p3

1898 09 30

Conybeare Barrington presentation, p4 \*

1899 10 27

Barrington green bylaws, p2

## **1900**

1900 09 04

The right of turning out horses on Barrington village green seems to be a very sore point with many of the parishioners. It was agreed to allow owners the right of turning out their horses to feed at 1s per head, or 1s 6d for two horses but this had been absolutely ignored, not one of the persons owning horses having paid. This has caused a deal of feeling in the village. The wording of the parish award is that the feed of the village green is for the use of cottagers only, but how far this is adhered to may be judged by the number of horses seen daily on the green.

1901 03 30

Prime bankruptcy, Barrington, p3

1901 05 23

Barrington parish clerk reported that at the recent parish council election the stock owners obtained a majority on the council, only two of the old members being re-elected. He asked whether the fact of their pasturing their horses and stock on the green disqualifies them from serving, as their intention is to evade all the laws relating to the village green. The Enclosure Award states that the common shall be enjoyed by occupiers of cottages who are not owners of land within the parish. Any others shall forfeit 5s. (25p) for every horse, ass or mule, 3s (15p) for every head of neat cattle, 1s (5p) for every sheep or swine and 2d (1p) for every goose. Councillors must not manage the green for their own personal interests. There were 15 horses, besides other stock on the green.

1902 05 19

Barrington Cement Company, p3

1902 09 26

All that is now left to the trader at Stourbridge Fair is the horse fair. This survives and flourishes where other branches of trade have declined. Buyers were in fair number and trading was brisk. Cart horses, hackneys and hunters, foals and ponies were offered for sale. One dealer, Mr Titchmarsh of Barrington got rid of about 40 carthorses during the morning. The pleasure fair consists largely of refreshment saloons and stalls from which pungent odours proclaim, even at a distance, the nature of the edibles on sale. Some roundabouts, swing boats and one peep show, in Garlic Row, complete the fair

1904 03 31

Sir – I must protest against the sanitary inspector's report on the pump on Barrington green. All the people living near it and having horses use it and have done so since the year dot. The water is not any worse now than it was then. If the inspector were to visit some of the cottages and make the owners keep them in a thoroughly sanitary condition, instead of trying to upset old customs, it would be better for the village. But there is the old story, 'I must not upset my masters', who are generally the owners – A Villager

1906 11 27

Philip Jude licensed horse slaughterer, Barrington – illustrated advert – 06 11 27

1907 08 12

The Rev Walker was exploring the railway station at Lord's Bridge where he opened a small tumulus in which he found a stone coffin containing a human skeleton and the bones of a dog. There was no lid to the coffin and the bones had been forced in by the aid of big stones. Most were broken with the head in the middle. One theory is that he might have been killed by a chariot. At Barrington hundreds of skeletons have been discovered with spears and swords, but none in a coffin. 07 08 12

1908 02 22

Deep regret will be felt at the news of the death of Mr William Rayner, the well-known grocer and postmaster of Barrington. He was highly respected and the village will mourn the loss of one who was ever ready to help anybody or any cause whenever his assistance was asked. 08 02 22b

1908 07 31

Twenty-six licensed houses are to close, magistrates decided. They include the Robin Hood at Litlington, Chesterton Long Reach, Swaffham Prior's Uncle Tom's Cabin and the Three Jolly Watermen in Waterbeach Fen. But the Fox in the Wood at Soham and the Cock at Isleham were spared after Police Superintendent Winter failed to appear to give evidence. The licence of the Black Horse at Over was renewed after the Star Brewery appealed. also Barrington Boot & Shoe, Bassingbourn Yew Tree, Steeple Morden Lion, Swaffham Prior John Bull, Bottisham Rose & Crown, Cottenham Six Bells, Oakington Lion and Lamb, Stapleford Hammer & Anvil, Swavesey Chequers, Willingham Little Rose, Castle Camps George, Balsham Ram, Linton White Hart, Cambridge Yorkshire Grey, Old Red Lion, Nine Pines, Thatched House, Baker's Arms, Red Lion, Brewery Tap & Carpenters' Arms. CWN 08 07 31

1909 02 05

An alarming accident occurred at Barrington when the gable end of a house in the Orwell Road collapsed. Fortunately Mr H. Coningsby and his family were at tea in the other end of the house at the time so that no one was injured. The building, which was erected 40 years ago, is of clay bats, which have become damp through the plaster covering coming off, and gave way in the rough wind, leaving the roof suspended. Mr Fred Patman removed the suspended portion of the roof which threatened to pull down the remainder. 09 02 05

1909 11 26

A clergyman who had ministered temporarily at Barrington in 1908 was cited as co-respondent in a divorce case. Mr K.W., not thinking there was anything between his wife and the cleric, had consented to his family staying with him but afterwards came to the conclusion there had been misconduct. He had thrashed the curate three times for visiting his wife during his absence but the man refused to cease his visits to her. The wife petitioned for a judicial separation on the grounds of cruelty. CWN 09 11 26

**1910**

1910 03 04

By the death of Charles Stearn of Brookfields Cambridge loses one of its few Crimean veterans. He was born at Barrington and joined the Cambridgeshire Regiment in 1846 with whom he fought at the Alma where at least 1,400 men lost their lives. At Inkerman the Russians came right up to the bayonets and the Russian dead numbered six to each Englishman. After a couple of years in the Crimea the Regiment was sent off to Canada where their boat struck a rock off Newfoundland and went down in half an hour. He had his wife and youngest son on board and got them into the lifeboats with difficulty. Later he was landlord of the Seven Stars on Newmarket Road CWN 10 03 04j & k

1910 06 24

A good deal of interest has been aroused by the discovery of a large fossil animal at Barrington. It has turned out to be portions of a hippopotamus. Nearly the whole of the vertebrae and some of the ribs and other bones have been removed to the Sidgwick Geological Museum. Remains of rhinoceros, elephant, bison, lion and hyena have also been found in the area which has the oldest fossil-bearing gravel in the district. 10 06 24c

1910 11 25

The whole of the Barrington Cement Works was sold by public auction in August 1909 at which Arthur Titchmarsh, grocer of Saffron Walden purchased Mill House and various pieces of machinery. Then in October the freehold of the site was also sold before he'd had time to clear the extensive foundations. Now it was alleged he had removed fire-bricks, iron piping and other materials, digging deep trenches in the process and had made a roadway across the land. A large number of witnesses

1914 03 27

The Grazing on the Green. - Great excitement has been caused in the village of Barrington through the Council endeavouring—as the villagers consider—to take away the right of grazing horse and cattle on the Green. It was thought that a certain resident was responsible for this, and a trench was dug in front of his house by some of the villagers, and an effigy was placed on the Green, together with a notice, with a Union Jack flying over the same, urging the villagers to stand up for their rights. The whole village was in an uproar. This culminated in a discussion, after the ordinary meeting of the councillors, held in the Barrington Schoolroom on Tuesday evening last, when there was a very large gathering. At first there was some little disturbance caused by one of the villagers, but fortunately, under the influence of the able chairmanship of Mr. Rate, this was quelled. Later Capt Fanshawe explained the scheme as formulated by the councillors, but he emphatically informed the gathering—and this was borne out by the minutes of the previous meeting—that he had been, and still was, averse to the new scheme, inasmuch as he did not consider it would be to the advantage of the villagers of Barrington. Up to the present, the villagers have grazed their cattle, etc., upon the Green without any payment, but the councillors, excluding Captain Fanshawe, have now applied for authority to make certain charges, which, as previously mentioned, has been greatly resented. At the end of the meeting one of the villagers asked that the matter should not be allowed to rest, and it was suggested that a further meeting, should be called at an early date to discuss the matter more fully

1914 03 27 CIPof

1904 04 03

The extensive green of the pleasant village of Barrington, which has for many years been a source of prosperity and enjoyment to the inhabitants, has lately become the source of disputes and discord. A number of abuses have arisen and a sub-committee was appointed to go into the question. A draft scheme was drawn up by the Charity Commissioners allowing horses, asses, mules and goats to be grazed, which caused heated discussion and was rejected 14 04 03 e & f-h

1914 04 03

Barrington Differences.—A meeting held at Barrington to consider matters connected with, the administration of the village green has resulted in the rejection by the villagers of the proposed scheme for the better control and management of the property (says Free Lance). The sequel to the meeting is a somewhat unsatisfactory one in view of the fact that without some definite rule, the present abuses of the Common and state of chaos will continue to prevail. The villagers declared

themselves against a scheme which certainly had some satisfactory features in it, but they made no attempt to define the lines of a system of control which would be acceptable to them. I congratulate Mr. M. V. J. Webber on his lucid explanation with respect to the Green, and on his courageous defence of the scheme—even when he was deserted by those members of the Parish Council who had previously expressed their approval of it. Mr. Webber emphasised the point that he was speaking as the mouthpiece of the Council—which had endorsed the proposals—but at Wednesday's meeting his colleagues left him to bear the brunt of the attack by the villagers. It is regrettable that personalities were introduced into the discussion, but the suggestions made can; only be regarded as paltry when ...  
- 1914 04 03 CIPof

1914 04 10

Barrington green dispute – 14 04 10d

1914 04 10

Received into Roman Catholic Church.—The Rev. J. K. McDowell, who recently resigned the living of Barrington, has been received into the Roman Catholic Church at Cambridge. Mr. McDowell has announced his intention of settling in Cambridge and taking up "coaching" work. Mr. McDowell was received into the Roman Catholic Church at the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs by the Very Rev. Mgr Barnes. It is interesting to note that Mr. Conybeare, a former Vicar of Barrington, also went over to the Catholic Church during recent years. - 1914 04 10 CIPof

1914 04 17

Barrington – councillors resign Barrington has achieved the unusual double distinction of being without a Vicar and without a Parish Council after the resignation of the chairman and five of the other seven members. The clerk turned up for the annual meeting of the council with his case of books though he knew no meeting could be held as three members are required to form a quorum and there were only two members left. It did not seem worth getting the key for the school so an informal meeting was held outside in the presence of two reporters and three villagers who strolled up to see what was happening. The situation was irresistibly funny and merry laughter rose with the tobacco smoke – for smoking was permitted 14 04 17e, d – editorial

1914 04 17

Barrington's Difficulties. Today (writes Free Lance) the parish of Barrington is in the unfortunate position of being without a Vicar and a Parish Council. This "double event" was the cause of a good deal of good-humoured comment on Wednesday night, when a meeting of the Council should have taken place, but had to stand adjourned on account of the wholesale resignation of the members. The two events, of course, have no relationship to each other and it anticipated within a very short time a new Vicar will be offered the living, which is, I believe, in the gift of Trinity College. Matters connected with the Parish Council and the Village Green, however, are not likely to be settled so quickly, judging by the general tone adopted by the two sets of contending parties. What has happened is that since the recent parish meeting the whole of the councillors, with two exceptions, have tendered their resignations, and as three constitutes a quorum, it is impossible for the present two members to transact any parish business. As a matter of fact, in response to the notice calling this week's meeting, only one turned up. - 1914 04 17 CIPof

1914 05 08

The large majority of cottagers would like to see Barrington Green properly regulated and if horses are to be permitted to graze the green, they are to be looked after by those who turn them on, and not allowed to roam wild, a meeting was told. They heard, probably for the first time, a lucid explanation of the conditions under which they hold the green. It should never be ploughed up for allotments. 14 05 08, a

1914 05 22

A meeting was called at Barrington to fill the six vacancies on the parish council caused by the resignation of members due to the dispute over the Green, leaving Mr H. Bedford as the only

remaining councillor. They must choose members who would fight and not indiarubber men who would stretch and say 'yes' to everything. There were eight nominations for six places but it was found that many people voted seven times. The Clerk read a section of the Corrupt Practices Act. No results were announced and a poll will now take place 14 05 22, a

1914 05 29

Barrington Green was in a better condition today than it was 50-years ago. The villagers managed their own affairs and did not want the proposed Charity Commissioners scheme, an inquiry heard. It was entirely the emanation of one or two parish councillors. Many smallholders moved on to own small quantities of land. If a labourer scraped together a few pounds to buy a couple of acres, yet continued in manual labour and lived in a cottage he would have to pay for his stock on the green while others would be allowed to graze freely. It would be a hardship. -14 05 29g, h

1914 06 12

A new pump has just been placed on the Orwell Road at Barrington by Mr Edward Conybeare who has always taken a great interest in the water supply of the village. Residents in the lower part have hitherto been obliged to go some distance for their water. The pump is the fourth and finest that he has presented to the village. Constructed by Mr H. Newton of Regent Street, Cambridge, it is of lead with a case of oak. There is a rest for buckets under the spout and the water drains off into a ditch near by 1914 06 12 p12

1914 06 12

New Vicar. The Rev G. J Foster, the new Vicar of Barrington, has arrived in the village, and takes up residence at the Vicarage during the weekend. For some weeks Barrington has been without a parish council and without a Vicar, and the date of the election of the Council and the arrival of the Vicar coincided !!! - 1914 06 12 CIPof

1914 06 26

Barrington pc finances p7

1914 07 03

Barrington houses inquiry into housing accommodation found many cases of insanitary conditions and overcrowding and difficulties had been experienced in dealing with such cottages because they had problems finding better accommodation or indeed accommodation at all. The cottages they had at present were not large enough for their families, or the young men wanted to be married and could not find accommodation. If the public authority were to build cottages they could not work them at the present rents and wanted to know what rent applicant felt himself able to pay. If the council were to build some cottages and let them at a rent what was not sufficient to pay the cost, the ratepayers would make up the deficiency.

1914 07 10

Dr Anningson said he and the Health Inspector had been handicapped in dealing with questions of overcrowding owing to dilapidated houses. There were houses which were unfit, but because there were no others to live in they were occupied. If a better class of cottages were built there would be a move up from the smaller and worse cottages on the part of those who could afford to pay the higher rent and set the smaller houses free for smaller families and for those who could not afford a small rent. Mr Douglas said he was living in a cottage that was not big enough for the family, and he did not know where to get another one. Barrington parish council wrote twelve months ago saying there were sufficient cottages for the need of the parish under normal conditions. It was not apparent that newly-married couples had any difficulty in getting accommodation. That might be altered now. There were forty people in Barrington who worked in Shepreth; were they going to provide cottages for them in Shepreth. William Hunt said his wife had to live in one room, and he in another, because they could not get a house. H. Neve wanted a cottage. He was a single man and wanted to get married. Mr Conder said each cottage ought to have a little piece of ground to go with it. They wanted a garden, a fair-sized one where they could grow vegetables. There ought to be a quarter of an acre with every



house, and never less. If you allow a quarter of an acre, you will make the rents more. The council could not build cottages at half-a-crown a week. Nothing less than 3/6 would cover the expense of building. They would consider making them worth a little more by adding a piece of ground. They could build lath and plaster houses cheaper. They would last a couple of hundred years. They are much more comfortable and much drier than brick houses and they will last a sufficient length of time. But it is the Local Government Board who have a fixed idea as to what cottages should be 14 07 03  
14 07 10

1914 10 02

Squire of Barrington.—It is with regret that we record the death of the Rev. Richard Bendyshe, which occurred at his residence at Barrington Hall on Thursday week. The deceased gentleman was 92 years of age, and for about six years he had been an invalid. Reserved and unostentatious he was, nevertheless, associated with all good works in the parish; his name rarely came before the public as an ardent supporter of the Church, but those who have been behind the scenes can testify to the large degree of assistance which he gave in parochial matters. And the Villagers realise that in the death of the squire they have lost a friend to whom they could appeal in their hours of trouble. The late squire was ordained in 1848, and subsequently held various curacies. We understand that he never held a living. He was the only surviving son of Mr. John Bendyshe, a former High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, and succeeded to the estate in 1865. His mother was a niece of Admiral Lord Nelson. His heir Col. Bendyshe, of the Royal Marines, is at present on active service. 14 10 02

1915 05 14

Barrington Squire Killed. A gloom was cast over Barrington on Saturday night, when the villagers received intimation of the death in action of the Squire - Brevet Lt.-Col. Richard Nelson Bendyshe, of the Royal Marine Light Infantry. Although Col. Bendyshe has never actually resided in Barrington the family is probably the oldest in the County, and the Bendyshes from time immemorial have been intimately associated with all matters pertaining to the welfare of the village. Col. Bendyshe succeeded to the large estates in Barrington and the district in September of last year on the death of his uncle, the Rev. Richard Bendyshe, at an advanced age. Mrs. Bendyshe and her daughter have only recently come to reside at the Hall. Col. Bendyshe retired from the Marines on July 1 1910 and was appointed to the Reserve of Officers. On the outbreak of the present war, Col. Bendyshe was called to the service of his country and served in the 12th Battalion, Marine Brigade, Royal Naval Division. At the time of his death he was in command of the Deal Battalion, and was engaged in the Dardanelles 15 05 14 CIP

1915 08 06

Photos of fallen soldiers

G.D. Salmon, Wisbech; G.C. Coote, Foxton; Capt R.E. Sindall, Cambridge; A.J. Coote, Barrington; L. Tuck; L/C Ryder; B. Rolph; S. Trotman; A.D. McPherson; H.H. Bendall; E.C. Colchester, Shelford; R.N. Bendyshe, Barrington; Capt Tebbutt; Hodson; W.J. Blane; E. Freeman; B. Carter, Bourn; Dunnett; - 15 08 06a

1915 08 20

Tusk of a Mammoth Elephant. The other day, an interesting addition to the many geological specimens found on the estate of Mr. William Cardo at Barrington was discovered by a party of well-known geologists. The find was the tusk of a mammoth elephant, some four feet of which was exposed on the occasion of the visit. The tusk is of great thickness and has not been fully exposed. 15 08 20 CIP

1916 05 24

Albert Wilkins, five Barrington brothers in the army – 16 05 24c

1919 04 02

Barrington-Foxton light railway – public inquiry; detailed report – 19 04 02b

## **1920**

1920 07 10

Public houses considered for closure – Victoria, Barrington; Guilden Morden Pig & Whistle, Cherry Hinton Hopbine, Castle Camps George & Dragon, Linton Axe & Saw, King Street Boot, Chesterton High Street Indian Chief, Newnham Road Tally Ho, East Road Turnstile, Gwydir Street Dew Drop

1920 07 14

Licences refused Barrington Victorian, Guilden Morden 'Pig & Whistle', Castle Camps 'George and Dragon', Linton 'Axe & Saw' – 20 07 14b

1920 11 17

Licenses refused: Barrington : Victoria; Guilden Morden Pig & Whistle; Castle Camps George & Dragon; Linton Axe & Saw – 20 11 17c

1921 01 12

Barrington Cement works, over 200 idle – photos -21 01 12c, e

1921 02 26

Barrington cement works; valuation of £730,000 – 21 02 26d

1923 10 18

Barrington Congregational church, p6

1924 09 17

Barrington blacksmith death, p6

1927 06 27

An inspection of the River Rhee from Guilden Morden to Cambridge showed banks were much overgrown and a number of trees had fallen into the stream. There was only one foot of water in the river in places. There are two mills in use, at Guilden Morden and Grantchester. One at Harston had not been used for a year and at Barrington no work had been possible for some years and the channel was blocked up. The river at Shelford was in a most dilapidated state

1927 10 11

The Prime Minister is expected to visit Barrington to open the new cement works. A distinguished company of about 100 will journey from London by special saloon carriages and the light railway direct to the works. The new works are already turning out great quantities of cement and when the second kiln is complete will be one of the largest cement works north of the Thames. About 200 men will be employed there permanently and it is expected that from a country village Barrington soon will be transformed into something like a small industrial town

1927 10 13

Sir – I see that Mr Baldwin is so delighted to find an undertaking which is employing more men rather than turning them off, that he is coming to open the new cement works in Barrington. I wonder if he will ask where the 200 men who are going to be employed are to be housed. I doubt if 20 houses have been built in neighbouring villages since the war and there is a long waiting list of people not connected with the works. A large proportion of the men at present employed are being lodged in houses where there is no proper accommodation for them, and if another hundred men are to be taken on shortly the congestion will be appalling – G.T. Garratt, Barrington

1927 10 15

Baldwin not to open Barrington, p3

1928 03 27

On Saturday was laid to rest in Chesterton churchyard the last surviving child of the Rev Michael Gibbs, once Treasurer of St Paul's cathedral. He was appointed to Barrington in 1835 and found the church in decay, rain pouring through the roof and the north door gone. All this he repaired but when the villagers saw the door replaced they remonstrated, saying "But where are our cattle from the green to go in winter?" He also got a thatched school built.

1928 11 05

Barrington cement works, p5\*

1929 11 05

Barrington Light Railway Company was an independent company entirely disassociated from the cement works except in business transactions. The railway originally belonged to the Dreadnought Cement Works Company which went into liquidation. They bought the railway but the works were sold separately. It owned engines and trucks and worked in co-operation with the L. & N.E.R. The line was a mile and a quarter long with a full gauge track. Their terminus was the entrance to the works; the line continued into sidings, but was maintained by the Cement Company, a Rating appeal was told.

### **1930**

1930 01 05 c

Israel Custerson, a farmer of Kingston, told the court that the defendant, a caravan dweller, had said he was stuck up the road because he had no petrol and let him have a can of petrol valued at six shillings. The man said he was going to Bourn to fill up the lorry and would bring the can back. But he did not return. Police Sergeant Smith said he saw the lorry at Barrington Green, noticed the petrol can and cautioned him. Defendant said he was an iron and metal buyer, he had returned to the farm but it was getting late and his lights failed. The next day his engine went wrong and he had to do repairs. He was fined £2.

1930 05 02

Chivers v Barrington cement, p8

1930 05 13

Messrs Chivers told the court that they had been growing fruit at Barrington for more than 20 years. They had two plantations growing raspberries, greengages and Victoria plums near the summit of a hill. In 1927 the Cement Company started a new works half-a-mile to the south and soon their pickers started to experience unpleasant smells. The raspberry crop was scorched and shrivelled by dust and the same thing happened to the plums. It was caused by considerable quantities of dust from the company's new chimney stacks. 30 05 13a & b

1930 07 03

Barrington dust, p6

1930 07 04

Chivers' claims that their raspberry and plum crops had been damaged by dust from Barrington cement works was upheld by the court. One side of the berries had been scorched as if touched by some caustic substance. There was a visible film of dust coming over from the works which stung the eye and could be smelled and tasted. The works were quite ready to purchase the two fields and pay compensation. 30 07 04 -b

1930 07 22

At Harston the flow of water from springs had greatly decreased; fountains were only trickling and one had ceased to run. At Barrington one of the chief fountains had run dry and other villages were beginning to suffer. A deep bore had been sunk at the cement works; after extensive pumping at the

works the village water supply dropped off and when the works shut down for a week the water improved. 30 07 22a-b

1930 12 27

Edward Conybeare, the former vicar of Barrington, retired in 1898 and was then received into the Roman Catholic Church. He has three sons and two daughters, all of whom have distinguished themselves; James is Archdeacon of Nottingham, Bruce was one of the early settlers in British East Africa, Alfred is a Master at Eton. Alison is now Ely Diocesan Secretary for the Mothers' Union while Dorothea is actively interested in the Girls' Friendly Society and assists in the massage department at Addenbrooke's Hospital where 12,000 treatments are given annually. 30 12 27e

1931 02 20

The Rev J.W.E. Conybeare has passed away at the age of 87. He was one of the first cyclists in Cambridgeshire and wrote guides to rides as well as a history of the county. Born in Liverpool, he was vicar of Barrington until 1898 and some time after his retirement was received into the Roman Catholic Church. The Mayor expressed his deep regret when he heard the news. 31 02 20k

1931 12 18

Messrs Eastwoods own 160 acres of first-class cement-making land at Barrington. We saw the marl being bitten out of the pit by a giant mechanical shovel and watched the complete process through to the final product. In the grinding mills the atmosphere was thick with cement dust and the din appalling. When we came out of this Bedlam of noise we were covered in cement dust, luckily it does not stick and most had vanished before we got to the final process, the bagging. 31 12 18a

1934 08 06

Barrington Cement Works accident, p2

1937 07 31

The appeal for pioneer women cyclists heard from Dorothea Conybeare. Her father, Rev Edward Conybeare of Barrington, had bought her sister a bike on 28 July 1893. By 1894 women's bicycles still rather unusual and fellow Perseans were much impressed when they'd cycled in from Barrington in order to be present at an examination for which the train would have been too late. She does not remember seeing any Cambridge women or girls bicycling before 1893 but saw two during a visit to Leicestershire in 1892 and was agreeably surprised by their grace and dignity 37 07 31a

1938 01 12

Three football grounds have been closed by the Cambs FA following complaints. At Gamlingay a referee had been threatened with violence by spectators who followed him to the dressing room, at Foxton a crowd had gathered round the ref, booing and shouting while at Barrington there'd been foul language during a match against the Railway Social team. The Council are determined to put a stop to such disorderly conduct. 38 01 12

1938 01 29

Henry Brunning of Great Shelford was a blacksmith for 55 years being kicked by horses many times. He did an apprenticeship at Barrington, then joined Alec Redhouse's firm of engineers and general smiths at Balsham. He later worked at forges at Linton, Shelford and Stapleford. He remembers when all travelling had to be done by walking or carrier carts and there were more penny-farthing cycles than anything else. During the Great War he worked in a munitions factory at Trumpington. He treasures a box of six spoons sent by his daughter who served in France as a nurse; each carries the name of a battlefield on which she'd served. 38 01 29

1938 04 25

Electricity would be supplied to Wicken, Hardwick, Barrington, Orwell and possibly Teversham this year. But the Beds, Cambs and Hunts Electricity Company had to abandon a scheme at Fulbourn because of restriction on the overhead line. Telegraph poles had been passing through villages for

many years carrying hundreds of wires without undue problems, but as soon as they come along with an overhead line, exception is taken to that. No one liked to spoil nature but it cost double the price to run cables underground bringing the cost per house up from £2 to £5. Six years ago there were 4,615 consumers, now it was 13,145; the number of electric cookers had risen from 526 to 2,039 38 04 25c

## **1940**

1940 05 03

A Centuries-old ceremony. The ancient ceremony, known locally as "walking the causey" (causeway) was solemnly carried out (at Barrington) last Sunday. The ceremony, which is said to date from time immemorial, is closely allied to that known as "Beating the bounds." The Barrington beater, however, operates only upon the village green (an area of nearly 30 acres) and not around the parish boundary, as is customary in some places. Barrington's official "walker" is now Mr. Fred Patman, and a few minutes after ten o'clock on Sunday morning he appeared clad in a frock coat, gorgeous waistcoat and a silk "topper," carrying a sword, said to be Roman, and a monster bell, gagged this year because of wartime conditions and ARP conditions about bell-ringing. Starting from the south-western end of the green, he walked with stately stride along the old cobbled pathway across the green to the church, making "official" proclamations en route, and knocking at the door of an old thatched house, once the town hall, but now renovated and a private residence, his progress towards the church being witnessed by many villagers. Among the visiting spectators this year were Mr. Jubal Howard Howard, and Mr. P. R. Salmon, of Melbourn, students of local history and folklore 40 05 03

1940 05 22

Pastor Dies. — The villages of Shepreth and Barrington have suffered a great loss by the death on the 16th inst, of the Rev. Henry Darlow, their Congregational pastor. Mr. Darlow conducted a meeting at the Shepreth church that evening and died shortly afterwards at his home. In spite of his advanced years — he was 78 — he had been remarkably active and every Sunday he used to walk from Shepreth to Barrington, where he had held the pastorate for the past 17 years. Mr. Darlow's influence for good in the village of Shepreth began with his appointment as headmaster of the school. He continued in this office for 29 years and during the period he won the affection of the young people of the village to such an extent that when 21 years ago, he took the oversight of the church, his ministry could scarcely have been other than a successful one. His devoted service was soon recognised by his fellow ministers and churchmen over a wide area, and he had been elected to the chair of the Cambs. Congregational Union.

1941 04 11

Children's Useful Work. Barrington children have dispatched 712 eggs to Addenbrooke's Hospital as an Easter gift from the village, and they were kindly conveyed free of charge by Mr. J. Hall. The children's war work during the winter has included 35 pairs of knitted socks from the school wool fund for the village men serving in H.M. Forces, eight children's frocks for Jersey refugees, 12 nightdresses for the W.V.S. and 52 blankets for the Red Cross.41 04 11

1943 10 08

A Good Friend, — The Local Food Produce Officer (Mr. J. G. Wilkerson) has left the village (Barrington) to reside in Cambridge. During his stay of just over three years, Mr. Wilkerson has acted as Clerk to the Parish Council, served on the Invasion Committee and has been organising secretary and chairman of the War Weapons, Warships and Wings for Victory Weeks Committees. He was always ready to help in anything connected the village. 43 10 08

1947 06 09

Sir, - A disturbing rumour has recently come to my notice that one of our famous beauty spots in Cambridgeshire may be in imminent danger of being despoiled. I refer to Barrington Hill. There appears to be a project afloat for the building along the side of Barrington Hill of a number of workmen's dwellings for the housing of operative employed in the Cement Works. We know only too

well that the need for such dwellings exists. We point out however that there are other and more suitable thoroughfares what would serve a far more useful purpose for such building schemes than this beautiful and historic spot - the desecration of which will be a matter of the greatest distress to many thousands in Cambridgeshire. - letter from Miss M.S. Gabrielle Breeze, Landbeach

1949 06 02

Walter Stockbridge told Cambridge rotary club of his experiences as an Antique Dealer. His first purchase of antique furniture was at Barrington, where he came across a very fine oak coffer, white with pig food, because that was what it was being used to hold. "The coffer had no lid and I managed to buy it for 5s. In triumph I bore it home and fitted a top to it. My father eventually sold it for £4.10s. Judge then my surprise when in London in 1919 I saw my coffer, still with its new lid, occupying a place of honour in the Victoria and Albert Museum"

**1950**

1950 05 12

Barrington housing, p4

1952 10 13

Six coachloads of people travelled from Barrington to the Victoria Restaurant, Cambridge to have dinner. They were employees of Eastwoods Cement Ltd who were celebrating the 25th anniversary of the opening of the works. Each guest went home with a gift – a silver hairbrush for the men, a powder compact for the ladies. Some of the cement workers missed the dinner through having to be on duty. They will be treated to another function later and a telegram of good wishes was sent to them on Saturday night.

1953 07 30

South Cambs RDC agreed to borrow £310,360 needed for a comprehensive water scheme designed to supply 17 parishes. At present the east area receives its piped water from Linton and the western area from the village of Croydon. The problem was to find a means of supplying the villages in the centre where eleven of the parishes including Barrington, Duxford, Fowlmere, Foxton, Shepreth and Whittlesford have no piped water at all. A bore was sunk at Dottrell Hall, near Fowlmere, and they were rewarded with a source which will yield a million gallons a day.

1953 08 07

A tour of the extensive orchards of Messrs Eastwood's at Barrington was given by Farm Manager, Mr A.S. Baker to demonstrate important operations in modern orchard management such as pruning, soil-management and grassing-down. The visitors were impressed by the very heavy crop of apples, plums and greengages and on the improvements made on the fruit farm as a whole. At the end of the tour refreshments were served in the new packing shed

1954 05 22

The official opening of Barrington sports ground had to be held in the village hall, owing to rain. As recently as 1950 the site was a wilderness complete with pots and pans, but it has now been transformed & should be a delight for many years to come. It consists of a full-size bowling green, two tennis courts and a roller-skating rink; this was unique and would protect the children from the dangers of the road. In the near future they hoped to get a cricket pavilion on the village green

1954 10 28

There has been some loss of historic buildings in Cambridgeshire, especially the medieval Beaupre Hall near Outwell. Messrs J.W. Green has uncovered the fine medieval timber frame of the Royal Oak public house at Barrington, though they took away the Jacobean bay window which had been added when the hall was divided to give an upper floor. The post mill on Madingley Hill has been taken over by David Robinson and would form a charming centre to his racing establishment. Bourn Mill has been very carefully repaired and braced by the Cambridge Preservation Society

1954 11 22

Eastwood Cement's development programme includes the construction of a new rotary kiln at the Barrington Cement Works which is expected to be in production by next summer. It will then have three rotary kilns and necessary ancillary plant, all in first-class condition and having ample reserve of excellent raw materials for the manufacture of the highest grade Portland cement.

1955 07 27

Barrington estate, p9

1956 01 04

Trinity College is to enquire into the average price of a Winchester Bushel of good marketable wheat in Cambridgeshire over the last 14 years. Once the price has been fixed the people of Barrington will have to pay. Under the terms of the village Enclosure Act of 1802 the church tithes were commuted into annual money payments calculated according to the price of cereal. It is the only local village affected by this particular form of corn rent. The last time it was fixed was 28 years ago when the price was 83d per bushel; now it will be nearer 131d. 56 01 04

1958 07 09

An inquiry was held into proposals for 20 bungalows for retired people on farm land at Shepreth Road, Barrington. It was a pleasant village around a green but the population was almost static as it was too far from Cambridge for people who worked in the city to live there. Any development should take place near the church, school and shops. 58 07 09b

1958 12 29

Eastwoods the cement and brick manufacturers were hosted to the Cambridgeshire Foxhounds at the Barrington. There was a good attendance of sightseers and the employees enjoyed a glimpse of England's traditional country life as the hunt went by. The horses and hounds, used by man since time immemorial, were in strange contrast to the latest type of bulk cement vehicle, which paused to let the Hunt go on its way. 58 12 29a

***1960s - The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date***

***1960***

1960 05 20

Throughout the year the CIP carried a series of feature articles relating to Cambridgeshire villages. They included Barrington – 60 05 20 CIP

1960 12 15

Thieves using high explosive charges blew open a safe at the Barrington works of Eastwoods Cement Ltd during the night and took £90 in cash. Although some workmen were on a night shift at the factory works, nobody heard the explosion which severely damaged the office and destroyed furniture. The raiders put packs of mud around the safe and used rain coats to deaden the noise. A metal container fitted with a warning hooter which was used for the collection of wages was also taken. Police called the theft 'a cheeky raid' 60 12 15

1961 01 27

Barrington windmill conversion; for 50 years the tower mill had fallen derelict; during the war the machinery was removed; but it is to be converted into living accommodation – 61 01 27 CIP

1961 02 22

Boys of two Army Cadet Battalion learned their drills the hard way when their machine guns jammed right in the middle of an enemy attack. Later a tremendous assault was launched upon a tree-filled quarry defended by resolute Bren gunners from Whittlesey. Smoke hit the attackers from their

objective as they struggled through the bushes and undergrowth while the air was filled with the noise of loud explosions and the clatter and crack of rifle fire. Afterwards everyone returned to the Barrington Training Centre for lunch– 61 02 22b

1961 12 09

Five villages, Graveley, Ickleton, Hauxton, Toft and Whaddon, have been stimulated into getting their own village halls through the closure of their local church schools. In the past they have been unable to afford the cost but now hope to purchase the buildings and convert them. The Ministry of Education has made grants for new halls at Stetchworth, Barrington and Lt Shelford while the Carnegie Trust has funded others at Newton, Orwell and Weston Colville. 61 12 09

1963 05 21

Barrington cement works fire of 100 tarred railway sleepers being used for extensions railway line – 63 05 21

1964 02 28

Barrington chalk works are in the middle of an expansion programme to increase productivity by two-thirds. Yet its storage shades and machinery remain inconspicuous and only the tall chimneys can be seen. 64 02 28a

1964 05 15

Barrington church find paintings three skeletons – 64 05 15

1964 08 07

Barrington village photo feature – 64 08 07a

1967 05 25

Grant Instruments started in Grantchester, then moved Bulbeck Mill at Barrington in 1957; new works at Shepreth opened – 67 05 25

## **1970**

1973 01 19

Cambridgeshire will soon boast a 60-acre country-park at Milton Pits and picnic sites at Mepal Pits and Shepreth if a Committee proposal is backed by the County Council. The Countryside Commission are poised to give grants to cover 75 per cent of the purchase and development costs for all three sites. The picnic site at Shepreth would cover about 24 acres of smallholdings land on the western side of the road from Shepreth to Barrington. One side has a frontage to the River Rhee. The Cambridgeshire & Isle of Ely Naturalists Trust say they are prepared to lay out a nature trail for visitors

1976 07 01

Looking after an English country garden can be hard work, as Miss Gladys Prime well knows – she's been doing it for a good many of her 86 years. Gladys and her sister Edith were amongst the Barrington residents who opened their gardens as part of the village festival. Their garden contains a monument dating from the turn of the century which incorporates the first concrete produced by Barrington's original cement works. The sisters uphold another tradition – keeping geese. "The village used to be famous for its geese. They used to be kept on the village green", said Gladys.

1978 12

Television reports of unidentified flying objects seen around the world, particularly over New Zealand, have led to many reports of UFOs in the Cambridge area. Sightings ranged from 'blue lights' in the sky to a 'trailing' cigar-shaped white plume. One sighting reported to the police turned out to be bright smoke from Barrington cement works chimney

1979 04 30



The 1,800 villagers of Duxford have lost their tiny branch surgery, despite a petition calling for its retention. Now they have to go to Sawston. Doctors say that the old days when the doctor was a comforter and father figure handing out bottles of red medicine have passed and the higher standards of modern medicine depend on tests and examinations which cannot be carried out at a branch surgery. Other surgeries have closed recently in Barton and Barrington while a question mark hangs over those at Great Chesterford and Elmdon. At Soham Health Centre there are minibuses to bring patients in from neighbouring villages and this might be arranged for Duxford.

## **1980**

1981 03 06

Barrington stores stocks a wide variety of goods. Crusty bread comes in daily from Godfrey's Bakery of Swavesey, eggs come twice a week from Fowlmere and the fruit and veg from Royston. They sell cheese from the block, various cold meats and beers. But they also sell sandpaper, needles, clothes pegs and mousetraps. One lady asked for corset laces, but these were not in stock. 81 03 06a

1981 06 17

Barrington ducks, p3

1982 09 18

Two redundant chapels are presently on the market. The Old Chapel on Barrington green has been converted into a modern open-plan home featuring an interior garden with fishpond and is priced at £90,000. By contrast St Nicholas at Barway costs £45,000. It dates back to the 14th century and retains many original features: the font stands in the hallway with the wooden pulpit in the lounge. 82 09 18a

1982 12 16

Shepreth County Primary School has joined the growing list of those which have been hit by falling rolls and forced to close. When terms ends so will 130 years of primary education with the 26 pupils being transferred to Barrington and Meldreth. It was an old school and needed modernisation so it was better to send them to more modern, better-equipped schools, the County said. But parents claim it is just to save money. Eight other schools have closed since last December. 82 12 16a

1983 01 22

Barrington, p10

1983 08 24

The Royal Oak is the last of seven pubs once in Barrington and many of the locals are drawn from the cement works which dominate the village – Barrington would be a perfect haven without it but then it could be dying for lack of jobs. There is a broad choice of bar menus and restaurant meals. We had trout and scampi with salad and were well content with the overall bill of £7.36 which included three glasses of wine and coffee. 83 08 24 p20

1984 01 05

A new village industry is booming in Cambridgeshire – compiling village chronicles. It is the result of a major project at the Cambridgeshire Collection which has indexed the village news appearing in the Cambridge Chronicle newspaper between 1770 and 1899. Now these stories are being transcribed and published in a series of village 'Chronicles'. The first was compiled for Stretham and others have followed for Littleport, Barrington and Swavesey with more in the pipeline. 84 01 05 p14

1988 06 29

Barrington Royal Oak landlady dresses in black – 88 06 29

1988 07 05

Jim and Linda Burton of Barrington have won the Shop of the Year award for outstanding community efforts. Their shop is an essential centre of village life. You can buy groceries, pick up prescriptions, have clothes dry-cleaned and shoes repaired. The health-conscious can buy carob bars and there is a delicatessen counter. Shops at Thriplow, Shepreth and Duxford are closing because of stiff competition from supermarkets so they have weekly offers and a free delivery service. . 88 07 05c

1990 02 07

Barrington community leaders unveiled ambitious new plans for a low-cost housing development at Challis Green, which have been drawn up by the parish council and National Agricultural Centre's Rural Trust. Houses would be sold for £40,000, half the normal price, because they were built on land donated to the trust or sold at agricultural value. The parish council would decide how they are assigned. 90 02 07a